

Entered at Stationers-Hall.



JOHN PHILLIPS,

Who was executed at COVENTRY, on *Wednesday*
the 18th Day of *August*, 1790.

62a

T H E

L I F E

O F

JOHN PHILLIPS,

A NOTORIOUS

ROBBER AND SWINDLER,

Who was executed at COVENTRY, on *Wednesday*
the 18th Day of *August*, 1790.

C O N T A I N I N G

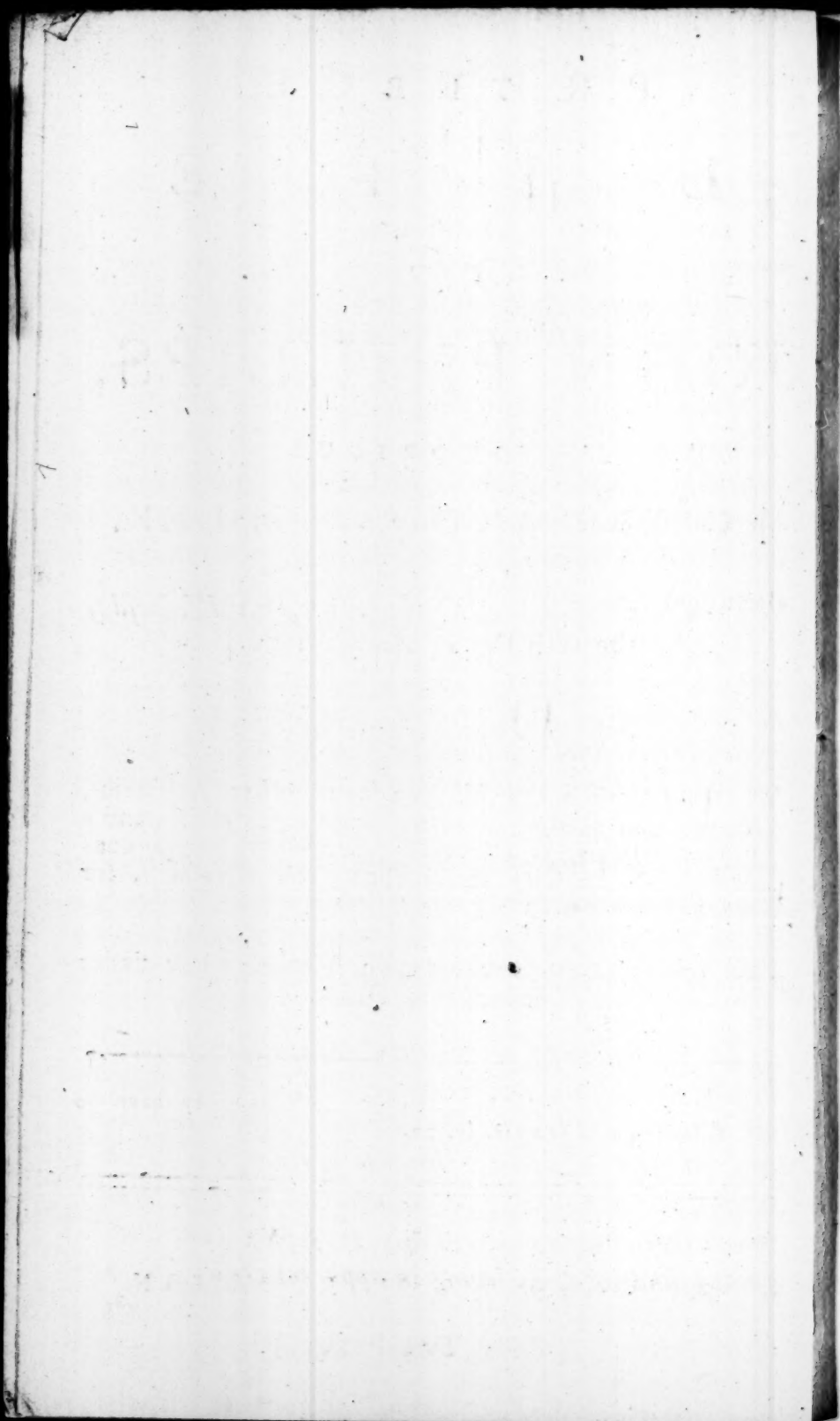
An Account of many Highway and other Robberies,
Frauds, and Acts of Villainy committed by him, and a
numerous Gang of Swindlers, with whom he was con-
nected, in the City of LONDON, and elsewhere, for
many Years past.

The Whole taken from his own Mouth, while under
Sentence of Death.

They are wise to do Evil, but to do Good they have no
Knowledge. JEREM. iv. 22.

C O V E N T R Y :
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P R E F A C E.

THE following Narrative does not appear in the world, merely to record the vices of a man now no more, but for the use and benefit of the public; and to caution others against those mischiefs, which were inseparable from such a line of conduct.

What various scenes of misery and distress did this unhappy man bring upon himself, and others, by the robberies and frauds he committed! and how many honest tradesmen he and his companions have injured, if not entirely ruined, by their swindling, and other iniquitous practices! And it is still more affecting, that men employed in the execution of justice, should themselves be the impeters of it, and share in the profits of villainy. How necessary that all magistrates should inspect into the character, and conduct, of those who are retained and employed by them, to protect the injured, and punish the guilty. Many of the frauds committed by Phillips were connived at, and suffered to pass unnoticed, by the men whose peculiar province it was to detect and punish him, because (as he observed) they were sharers of the spoil.

Let tradesmen of every denomination learn wisdom by this narrative, and be more cautious in forming connections, and transacting business. It was customary for these swindlers, when one of their gang set up in any line of business, to recommend him to persons whom they thought were likely to supply him with goods; and who, by living in apparent credit, were

not

not suspected of deceit. By this means, many merchants and others have been taken in, to a large amount.

Let parents strictly attend to the education and morals of their children. Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it, is the advice of the wise man. The parents of Phillips had it in their power to give him a decent education; but because he had an aversion to learning and confinement, they suffered him to remain in a state of ignorance and idleness, which laid the foundation of his, and their future misery.

The institution of Sunday Schools, gives such parents an opportunity of obtaining those advantages for their children, who from their narrow circumstances are prevented from procuring them in another way. How blameable then are they, who neglect the proper season of securing these benefits.

If the living profit by the sins and sufferings of this unhappy man, the design of this publication will be answered.

✍ It was thought improper to publish the names, and places of abode, of those persons who were concerned with Phillips, in various robberies and frauds; but the particulars are in the hands of several active Magistrates, who will not fail to make a proper use of the information.

T H E
L I F E
O F
JOHN PHILLIPS.

JOHN PHILLIPS was born at a village in North Wales, in the year 1761, whose parents are now living there in reputation. They were desirous of giving him a good education, but his aversion to learning, and confinement, prevented his continuing at school : he assisted his father in his business, who was a farmer and grazier, until he was about 18 years of age ; he then went to sea, and entered on board the Empress of Russia Privateer, fitted out at Chester ; he had not been long at sea, before the vessel was captured by a French Privateer, and carried into St. Maloe's, where the crew remained prisoners a few weeks ; and from thence were removed to Nantz Castle, where they lay about nine months, when they were put into a cartel ship, and in their passage were cast away upon a rock, near the Isle of Guernsey ; and several of them perished ; those that were saved, from the wreck, were taken to Guernsey, by two smuggling cutters. He had been but a short time here, before he with two of his companions entered on board the London Privateer, and received ten guineas each ; the vessel was bound for Lisbon, with

with a design to get hands, but one of his companions died on his way. When they lay off Lisbon, Phillips and one Jones, had thirty guineas entrusted with them, to go to Lisbon to procure men, but they ran away with the cash, which they soon spent, and entered on board the *Celus* Frigate, belonging to Commodore Johnson's squadron. In a few days after they took the *Artois*, a French Privateer, and a Letter of Marque. After these captures, they sailed for England, Phillips was taken ill on his passage home, and was landed at Portsmouth, where he was sent to the Hospital; but soon recovering from his sickness, he entered on board the *Barfleur*, commanded by Admiral Hood, and sailed to Barbadoes to join Admiral Rodney; from thence they sailed to St. Eustatia, where he was drafted into a tender, in which he sailed to English Harbour; here he, in company with Gordon, robbed two of the officers belonging to the tender of their linen, and about six pounds of cash, and made their escape across the island to St. John's. In crossing the island, they stole a mule, which they soon parted with, for seven dollars. At St. John's, they entered on board the *Nancy*, a West-India Merchant-man, bound for England, commanded by Capt. Peters, where the vessel arrived safe; and Phillips returned home to his parents, after an absence of several years. He continued with his father about a year, when he left him, and went to Penley in Shropshire, where he entered into the service of a Miller, with whom he lived about a year. He then left his service, and engaged with Mr. W. a Miller, in the same county, with whom he lived as a servant about three years.

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His master being a man of bad character, and connected with a gang of swindlers in that country, committed a forgery, for which he left the kingdom. Soon after W—t ran away, Phillips formed an unlawful connection with his wife, who had then three children living by her husband. He continued in this situation, and took unto himself the stock, and charge of the mill, which they rented of Lord Clive; but his conduct, and manner of life, soon reduced the property, and not being able to pay the rent, he was seized upon, and sold up by the steward, and an attorney who attended the sale, until the whole was disposed of. When this was done they returned home, and Phillips was determined to regain the cash, with the addition of what more they had about them; to accomplish this, he took a horse, and brace of pistols, pursued them, and soon came up with them in a lane near Shrewsbury race-course, where he robbed them of near three hundred pounds; and obliged Mr. W—g, the attorney, to change horses with him: he then set off for Liverpool, but was apprehended in about three weeks, lodged in Shrewsbury gaol, and tried at the next assizes by Judge Builer, but acquitted for want of evidence; the steward not swearing positively to his person. Phillips and the miller's wife then went to Liverpool, where he took a mill, and set up mealman, in Union-street; he continued there but a quarter of a year, in which short space he defrauded several persons, to the amount of five hundred pounds. One day being in a shop there, he saw a rider belonging to a capital haberdasher in Cheapside, London, receive a sum of money, whom he watched out of

the town, pursued, and robbed, between Liverpool and Chester, of about fifty pounds.

Phillips sold up, and with his mistress set off for London, and took a house, No. 22, Brooke's-Market, where he commenced Cheese-factor. Here he remained about a year, during which time, he formed an extensive connection with swindlers, in company with whom, he committed divers frauds and robberies. It was customary for these gentlemen, to look out for new beginners, and as soon as possible get acquainted with them, in order to ruin them; it was this way Phillips had first knowledge of the gang, who made court to him for this purpose; but he was too well established in the craft to be deceived by them; and therefore joined with them in the trade, and as he confessed, soon proved himself worthy their confidence. With this formidable party, he was concerned in many highway robberies, as well as frauds. The first robbery Phillips committed in this quarter, was upon the driver of a stage-waggon, whom he robbed of seven guineas, and some silver. The next was the Bristol stage, which he and one of his colleagues stopt between Maidenhead and Reading; they obtained from the passengers (which consisted of three ladies and two gentlemen) near three hundred pounds; a great part of which was the property of one of the gentlemen, concealed in a pair of saddle-bags. They gave the coachman a handsome fee. Phillips and his companion, then set off for Bristol fair, (this is about five years since), and on the road, at a small distance from the city, they robbed two farmers of fourteen shillings. They committed several frauds and robberies during their stay

stay at Bristol, where they continued as long as they thought themselves safe; from hence they set off for London. On their way to Bath, they met a gentleman near the town, whom they robbed of five guineas in gold, half-a-crown in silver, and his gold watch. After this, they made the best of their way to Oxford. Just before they reached the place, they met a farmer in a state of intoxication, from whom they expected to have obtained a large booty; but to their mortification, found only fourteen-pence in his pockets. They were both taken up at Oxford, upon suspicion of having committed this robbery; but released for want of sufficient evidence to convict. They then set off for London to join their company, and relate their exploits, but when they reached Hounslow-heath, they met a Publican who kept a Tavern in St. Martin's-Lane, London; and robbed him of two guineas and half, for which, some time after, his accomplice was taken up, tried and condemned, but afterwards reprieved for transportation. However, they reached London safe. About six weeks after they returned from this excursion, Phillips received information from a Post-boy, that he was going down to Dover with a French Nobleman, who he heard had a considerable property with him: the boy was rewarded for the pleasing intelligence, and Phillips had his horse fetched from the stable where he always kept him when in town, and set off on the Dover road; he had not been there long, before he perceived his informer driving the prize. He stopt the carriage, and with a pistol demanded his money, which he gave him, amounting to rather more than 30*l.* together with his gold watch.

Phillips

Phillips returned to London, and a short time after pawned the watch to a Mr. L——e, in Drury-Lane, by which he was discovered; but for some time escaped justice, by secreting himself in various places. While lurking about from place to place, he one evening determined to attend a public Masquerade, with one of his companions; accordingly he procured two tickets for himself and friend, and hired dresses for the purpose. When he had been there a short time, he saw two of the principal runners belonging to Bow-street, waiting for a prize. Phillips now began to think of a proper plan to make his escape, which he effected as follows. A Lady with whom he had been in company most part of the time at the Masquerade, expressing her intention to withdraw, and go home, he offered his service to conduct her; which she accepted. Phillips kept his eye upon the runners, suspecting that they were after him, and embracing a favourable opportunity, decamped with the Lady in a coach, which was waiting at the door for her, and drove to her house. The runners had as diligently watched him, as he had them; and no sooner was the coach off, but they followed; and after he had been there some time, they gained admission, and took their prize, whom they safely conducted the next morning before the Magistrate, and he was committed to Newgate, tried at the Old-Bailey the next Sessions, and condemned: but he was to have a few years longer to commit depredations on the public, for by virtue of interest made for him by his uncle, who was one of the King's farriers, and a Nobleman who knew his family in Wales, his sentence was altered for transportation:

portation : he was accordingly put on board a vessel for that purpose, with the other convicts, but made his escape while it lay off Woolwich. He received his reprieve but a day or two before the time fixed for his execution, and he had procured his coffin and shroud ready, which at his own request were put with him in the Cell.

After his escape from the vessel, he got possession of his favourite horse, and set off for Ireland. When he was got within a few miles of Holyhead, he attacked and robbed an Irish Gentleman in his carriage, of a considerable sum ; he then made the best of his way to Holyhead, hoping to embark from thence for Ireland, before information of the robbery could reach there ; but he was mistaken, the news had reached Holyhead very soon after his arrival ; and in order to escape, he was obliged to leave his horse there, and with some difficulty he reached the Irish shore. The horse was presently owned, and means taken to apprehend his master, but in vain ; the horse however to his great regret, was never after regained.

No sooner had Phillips set foot in Ireland, but he changed his dress, and continued there a few days ; during which time, he visited the fashionable circles, to try what he could secure. One day as he was parading in a public walk, he heard one Gentleman say to another, my Lord — has been robbed a few days since near Holyhead, and has bid a large reward for the apprehension of the thief, who has made his escape into this country. This hint was enough for Phillips, who in a short time withdrew, and made the best of his way for Scotland, where he continued but a short time, and
once

once more visited London. Here he again joined his former connections, and from this time was generally employed in highway robberies. He took a house in Fleet-street, near Temple-Bar, and sold liquors. At this period, the gang took a capital house in Pall-Mall, and commenced Bankers; they had a quantity of blanks engraved, and the bills were dated from Dublin, and drawn payable at their house in Pall-Mall. For a short time they paid their drafts, by which their credit became established, and of course their bills were more in circulation; and now was a proper time to stop payment, which they did, and shut up their bank; the parties retiring where they could for safety. One of these bills Phillips had for his stock, and which he afterwards passed for cash. The gang had upwards of twenty houses in their possession at different parts of London, in less than two years, into each of which they used to put one of their companions, and set him up in some branch of business, frequently in a large way; and by their art they soon procured him a capital stock upon credit: which they dispatched in the most expeditious and profitable way they could, and when their credit began to be suspected, or payment was at hand, they shut up shop, and removed the goods that remained to another house, in a different part of the city, and commenced their former practices, but generally in a different line of business to that they had last pursued. When any of their companions were arrested for debt, or apprehended for any offence which was bailable, they used to select as many as were necessary to give bail for them; and if they were committed to prison

prison for an offence for which bail could not be admitted, some of the gang were always provided to appear on the trial, to prove an *alibi*, or act in any way they wished, in order to liberate them. One of their party, a waiter in a capital tavern, was apprehended and tried at the Old-Bailey for murdering a man near the door of the tavern, during the Westminster Election : Phillips was appointed to appear for him, and positively swore, that the person charged with the murder was with him in the dining-room of the tavern, at the very instant the murder was done, though Phillips declared in prison, that the man was guilty, and he was perjured, being two miles distant, at the time he swore he was with the murderer in the dining-room. It appears by the evidence of Phillips, that the sheriff's officers were in general connected with the gang, and would never execute a writ, without first informing the parties, and waiting until they were prepared to give bail : thus the cause of justice was interrupted, and persons generally made worse by commencing the action. Some of the turnkeys in the Fleet and other prisons, were of the same complexion.

Another practice equally infamous with any of the former was common among them. When they gained information of any tradesman who was in strait circumstances, they endeavoured to get acquainted with him, and would offer to help him with a draft or two occasionally, to prevent his stopping payment ; when they had done this, a little time, they would use all the arguments they were master of, to persuade him to stop ; and in order that he might gain something by it himself, they

they would get a note, or notes of hand from him for sums borrowed, or frequently produce debts for goods sold and delivered, to a large amount. When this was done, a statute was taken out against him, the tradesman made a bankrupt; the honest creditors defrauded by a composition, or dividend of six-pence or one shilling in the pound; while these villains gained possession of the principal part of the property. This they did in many instances.

During the W——r contested Election, Phillips was employed by an Agent to one of the parties to procure votes; in this he exerted all his skill, as he had a fixed sum allowed him for all he could make; and he was very successful in the business, having in the course of the Election procured a considerable number, respecting many of whom, to support their claims, he perjured himself.

Upon his last arrival in London, he obtained some fresh acquaintance, several of his old ones being occasionally taken off, in spite of all their endeavours to prevent it. Among the number of his new friends was one Mr. R— B—, a very great favourite, and who Phillips observed lived in credit and affluence, on which account he would secret his name. These two set off to Newmarket races, in order to get some booty, but they met with nothing considerable there, and therefore resolved to do the best they could in their rout to London. They determined to visit Bath, where they continued three weeks. Here Phillips got acquainted with a respectable family, and married their daughter, an amiable young woman, with whom he received 140l. He continued with her about three days,

days, when he and his companion set off for London, leaving his wife behind him, and whom he never saw afterwards. He wrote to her while in Coventry gaol, after his condemnation, but of course received no answer. In this excursion, Mr. R. B. travelled in a Phæton, and Phillips on horseback; when they came a little beyond Barnet, they overtook a Nobleman's carriage with a large trunk behind it, and two servants in livery following after. Mr. R. B. and Phillips passed the carriage, and presently stopt to drink a glass of wine, at the door of an inn on the road; the carriage soon came by, and Mr. R. B. sitting in his Phæton, stopped the two footmen, to ask the name of their master, which they directly informed him, and for which, he begged they would drink a glass of wine, observing, that the coach would drive gently and they might easily overtake it. He accordingly ordered a couple of glasses, and they drank two or three each; while this was doing, Phillips was gone forward on his horse, and embracing a favourable opportunity, leaped off, and with his knife, cut the trunk from behind the carriage, and threw it into a ditch; he then directly mounted his horse, and returned back to meet Mr. R. B. which he very soon did; and the servants also riding fast to overtake the carriage. When they came to the place where the trunk was hid, Phillips dismounted his horse and put the trunk into the Phæton; they then turned back, and drove a different way into town. The trunk was opened by R. B. at his own house, and he brought Phillips a purse with forty guineas, and three stone-rings, as his part of the booty; but from the large reward offered for the

recovery of the trunk and property in it, he thought that his new friend had cheated him of a great part of the property ; for he observed, it was no uncommon thing for them to defraud one another, when a favourable opportunity offered.

In the year 1788, Phillips and a Mr. L. attorney, returning from Reading, stopt an Irish Gentleman's chariot, near Maidenhead, and robbed him of near 200l. When they came to town they put their horses up at an inn, in Oxford-Road, and as they passed thro' Holbourn, they observed a large croud of people assembled ; upon which they went among them, and saw an elderly Gentleman in a fit ; several of the spectators pitied him very much, and seemed much concerned that no person knew him, that proper care might be taken of him. Phillips directly improved this hint, approached him, and exclaimed, " Good God ! here is my Uncle in one of his fits ? " His companion directly seconded him, and they called a coach, into which they put him, and got in themselves, when they ordered the coachman to drive to No. 42, Oxford-street, his pretended place of abode. No sooner was the coach set off, than they began to search the old Gentleman's pockets, from which they took two twenty pound Bank-Bills, fifteen guineas in gold, some silver, and his gold watch. Having compleatly rifled his pockets of their contents, they ordered the coachman to stop, telling him that the Gentleman was much better, and they would get out, but desired he would drive as first ordered, where he would receive his fare, and be handsomely rewarded for his care and trouble. Phillips and his companion returned to the French-
Horn

Horn Tavern, Holbourn, where they shared the booty. About this time Phillips and four of his companions set off from London together, to get some booty ; after they had proceeded about ten miles on the road, they met a Welch Drover, who was going to London with a large drove of cattle, consisting of horses and cows. They entered into conversation with him ; one said he was a carcase butcher, another, he was a drover, and they offered to buy the cattle, if he would sell them worth their money. The drover replied, that he was going to Smithfield market with a design to sell them, and he had no objection to part with them on the road, if they could agree. The cattle were then divided into parcels and a certain sum of money asked by the drover a-head. After some altercation on both sides, they agreed ; and retiring together to an inn, near the spot, one of the party pulled out a number of their Dublin Blanks, filled them up, and gave them to the drover, with some cash to make up the sum agreed for. The cattle were of course delivered up to Phillips and his friends, directly driven to London, and the principal part of them sold the next day at Smithfield. The unsuspecting drover applied for the payment of his drafts, but found the Bank deserted ; however, he had obtained the real name and place of abode of Phillips, and the next day came to his house for cash instead of the bills he had received of him for his cattle. Phillips put him off until the next day, but the drover in the mean time obtained a writ against him, and which was in a day or two executed upon him. This was no sooner done, than bail was given, and the drover secured

what of the cattle were not sold. This was no sooner finished, than Phillips arrests the drover for the value of those cattle he had taken back, he having satisfied him for the whole of the property. The poor drover could not obtain bail so easily as Phillips had done, and therefore he was taken to a lock-up, or spunging-house, until he could accomplish it. Here he continued some time, and after several weeks, it was agreed, that they should forgive each other the respective debts; and that Phillips should give the drover five guineas to bear his expences home. And thus this iniquitous piece of business ended.

Soon after this affair, Phillips took a ride from London towards Barnet, and a few miles before he reached there, he overtook a Welch drover, who had been to London with a drove of cattle, which having sold, he was returning to his own country. No sooner did he overtake the man, but he entered into conversation with him, by asking him how far he was going that road; what countryman he was, and such like questions. The drover replied, that he was a Welch drover, had been to London to sell cattle, and was returning home. Phillips, in turn told him, *that* was his calling; and he had been upon the same business. The drover asked him, whether there was not much robbing about that place, to which Phillips replied in the affirmative; though he never carried much cash about him, always sending it home before him; but there was less danger of being robbed in company, than when alone. The poor drover then informed him, that he had a large sum about him, near three hundred pounds, in bills and cash, and he should be

be sorry to be robbed of it, as the loss would ruin him. Phillips replied, to be sure it is a large sum to carry about one, unless put in a very secure place. To this the drover answered, that his was in so secure a place, that he thought the devil could not find it, for he had put it within side his boot. They then rode together talking of various things, until a favourable opportunity offered, when Phillips pulled out a pistol, dismounted his horse, and bid the drover stop, for he must have the contents of his boot. The poor fellow was thunder-struck (to use Phillips's expression) and said to him, smiling, you are only joking. No joke like a true joke, said Phillips, and taking a pen-knife out of his pocket, ripped the boot from top to toe, and took out the cash and bills. The drover now found his mistake, and said, that he had nothing to carry him home, for that was all the money he had with him. Phillips upon this, took out two guineas, wrapt it up in a piece of paper, and threw it over a hedge, that the drover by going there to search for it, might furnish him with a favourable opportunity to escape; which he accordingly did, and made the best of his way home; leaving the poor deluded drover to lament his loss. It is to be remarked here, that Phillips had been in company with this drover the day before, at the sign of the Greyhound in Smithfield, and knew of his intended journey the next day.

Just after this robbery, the Miller's wife, whom Phillips had cohabited with ever since her husband left the kingdom, died; leaving him the three children she had by her husband. Her death had a great effect upon his mind; he began to consider

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all his conduct, and misfortunes, as the fruit of this sin, which he observed, had caused the curse of God to follow him in very place ; but his old companions, and a course of intoxication, which he now more than ever gave himself up to, eased him in a great measure of these reflections. Being now reduced in life, he resolved to take the children to their relations in Shropshire, who were living in affluent circumstances, and who were glad to receive them from him. The eldest daughter had 24l. a year left her by her grandfather, who was a Clergyman in that county ; and the other two had each of them some property secured to them.

He again returned to London, and sometime after he and a companion hired two horses of Mr. Ibbison, in Holbourn, to go to Birmingham, where they sold one, and sent the other back. His companion in going through Coventry, engaged a one-horse chaise of a Mr. Townsend, but it being then on a journey, Townsend agreed to meet him in Birmingham with the chaise at a time specified, which he accordingly did. Phillips met his companion here, and they went together in the chaise from Birmingham to Burton-upon-Trent, where they picked a Gentleman's pocket of seventeen guineas and a half ; from thence they set off for Litchfield, but meeting with nothing there to encourage their stay, they proceeded to Willington in Shropshire. Townsend suspecting that his chaise was in danger, from some information he had received, pursued Phillips and his companion ; and after much labour and riding, he found them. At this time Mr. Ibbison was after them for the horse Phillips had sold belonging to him. As soon as
Townsf.

Townsend had found them, he had them taken into custody, and sent to Ibbison, the prisoners being at this time in the possession of the constables. When Ibbison arrived, he swore to the circumstance of his horse, and Phillips was committed to Shrewsbury gaol. His colleague by some means made his escape from the constables who had him in charge. Phillips was removed by habeas corpus to Warwick gaol, where he was tried, and acquitted.

After he was released from Warwick gaol, he had formed a resolution to return to his father, and leave off his former courses ; but promising to carry a letter from a prisoner there to his mother, who lived in Birmingham, he met with Archer, and they soon became acquainted. He informed Archer, that he had heard while in Warwick gaol, there was a club held at the Shepherd-and-Shepherdess, near Coventry, and that they had better take the first opportunity to rob it. They accordingly fixed upon Easter-Tuesday to do the business, in company with another person. They came to Coventry, and stopt at the sign of the Nag's-Head, near the Navigation Wharf, and after taking some refreshment, they went to the house, but there being a meeting of the hamlet of Keresley, they mistook it for the club, and returned the same evening for Birmingham, determining to go again on Thursday morning. Archer in the mean time met with Farnsworth, the other unhappy person executed with them, who was by trade a sawyer, and then out of employ. Archer informed him, that he was going near Coventry, and if he would go with him, he might very likely get work in that place, or neighbourhood. They set off together, and in the afternoon met with Phillips, when it was proposed to Farnsworth (who had never seen

him before) to accompany them to the Shepherd- and Shepherdes, to commit the robbery ; he was very reluctant to the business, but went after them to the house ; from whence they stole about ten pounds in cash, some wearing apparel, and several other articles ; for which they were all three tried, and condemned, at the next assizes in the city of Coventry, and executed pursuant to their sentence, on Wednesday the 18th of August last.

The conduct of Phillips, during his whole confinement, discovered his true character. — About two days after his condemnation, he seemed somewhat sensible of his situation ; but this soon disappeared, and his behaviour afterwards was frequently indecent, and generally unbecoming his state ; to such a degree, that his fellow-convicts would not associate with him, or be in his company, any more than they could avoid. He related his former practices with pleasantry, and spoke of death with the greatest unconcern and indifference. His behaviour at the gallows discovered the perturbation of his mind ; he several times called to the executioner to make haste, as though he wished the halter to stifle those convictions which appeared evident in his countenance, and he would have leaped off the cart before his fellow-sufferers were ready, had not pains been taken to prevent it. He spoke a few words to the people, telling them, that such conduct as his, would sooner or later terminate in his unhappy end, and particularly warned them against the sin of adultery, which he asserted had caused the curse of God to follow him in every situation. Thus lived and died one of the most accomplished villains that ever disgraced human nature.